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PATENTS
6976/Y01/SYNX/SYNX/HMM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Martin R. Elliott et al.
Serial No. : 10/650,312
Filed : August 28, 2003
For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR USING SUBSTRATE
CARRIER MOVEMENT TO ACTUATE SUBSTRATE
CARRIER DOOR OPENING/CLOSING
Group Art Unit : 3652
Customer No. : 41161
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97,
applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the
following references:

U.S. Patent No. 5,372,471, Wu
U.S. Patent No. 4,027,246, Caccoma et al.
U.S. Patent No. 6,082,948, Fishkin et al.
U.S. Patent No. 5,888,042, Oda
U.S. Patent No. 6,048,259, Asai

U.S. Patent No. 3,845,286, Aronstein et al.
U.S. Patent No. 6,026,561, Lafond
U.S. Patent No. 5,884,392, Lafond
U.S. Patent No. 5,411,358, Garric et al.
U.S. Patent No. 5,382,127, Garric et al.
U.S. Patent No. 4,166,527, Beezer
U.S. Patent No. 5,818,716, Chin et al.
U.S. Patent No. 5,612,886, Weng
U.S. Patent No. 5,976,199, Wu et al.
U.S. Patent No. 5,256,204, Wu
Foreign Art Reference No. JP 08-046005 (Japan)
Foreign Art Reference No. JP 11-121585 (Japan)
Foreign Art Reference No. WO 97/03001 A1 (PCT)
Foreign Art Reference No. WO 98/50946 A1 (PCT)
Foreign Art Reference No. WO 99/28952 A2 (PCT)
Foreign Art Reference No. WO 00/44653 A1 (PCT)
Foreign Art Reference No. WO 00/59004 A1 (PCT)
Foreign Art Reference No. WO 01/01828 A1 (PCT)
Foreign Art Reference No. WO 01/10756 A1 (PCT)
Foreign Art Reference No. WO 02/04774 A2 (PCT)
Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0513651 A1 (EPO)
Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0219826 B1 (EPO)
Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0472536 B1 (EPO)
Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0651429 A1 (EPO)

Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0556193 B1 (EPO)

Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0663686 B1 (EPO)

Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0684631 B1 (EPO)

Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0555891 B1 (EPO)

Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0663686 A1 (EPO)

Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0365589 B1 (EPO)

Weiss, Mitchell, "Evaluating 300-mm Fab Automation Technology Options and Selection Criteria", June 1997, MICRO, Vol. 15, No. 6, pages 65-66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78-79.

Ebert, et al., "Efficient CFD Modeling of Single-Wafer Semiconductor Fabrication Systems for Closed-Loop Evaluation", Dec. 1997, Proceedings of the 36th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control, Vol. 1, pages 830-831.

Kobayashi, et al., "Particle Characteristics of 300-mm Minienvironment (FOUP and LPU)", 1999, Proceedings of 1999 IEEE International Symposium on Semiconductor Manufacturing Conference Proceedings, pages 39-42.

No-Author, "PRI Selected By Varian Semiconductor to Supply 300mm Integrated Front-End Buffering Solutions", Feb. 10, 2000, Newswire, Page 7434.

These references are also listed on the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement (Form PTO-1449).

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this
patent application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian M. Dugan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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Registration No. 41,720
Dugan & Dugan, PC
Attorneys for Applicants
(914) 332-9081

Dated: 2/21/07
Tarrytown, New York

U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <p>RELEVANT ART CITED BY APPLICANT</p> <p>(Use several sheets if necessary)</p> </div> </div>				Docket No.: 6976/Y01/SYNX/SYNX/HMM		Serial No.: 10/650,312	
				Applicants: Martin R. Elliott et al.			
				Filing Date: August 28, 2003		Group: 3652	
U.S. Patent Documents							
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	US-1	5,372,471	12/13/94	Wu			
	US-2	4,027,246	05/31/77	Caccoma et al.			
	US-3	6,082,948	07/04/00	Fishkin et al.			
	US-4	5,888,042	03/30/99	Oda			
	US-5	6,048,259	04/11/00	Asai			
	US-6	3,845,286	10/29/74	Aronstein et al.			
	US-7	6,026,561	02/22/00	Lafond			
	US-8	5,884,392	03/23/99	Lafond			
	US-9	5,411,358	05/02/95	Garric et al.			
	US-10	5,382,127	01/17/95	Garric et al.			
	US-11	4,166,527	09/04/79	Beezer			
Foreign Patent Documents							Translation
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes No
	F-1	JP 08-046005	02/16/96	Japan			X
	F-2	JP 11-121585	04/30/99	Japan			X
	F-3	WO 97/03001 A1	01/30/97	PCT			X
	F-4	WO 98/50946 A1	11/12/98	PCT			X
	F-5	WO 99/28952 A2	06/10/99	PCT			X
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	OT-1	Weiss, Mitchell, "Evaluating 300-mm Fab Automation Technology Options and Selection Criteria", June 1997, MICRO, Vol. 15, No. 6, pages 65-66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78-79.					
	OT-2	Ebert, et al., "Efficient CFD Modeling of Single-Wafer Semiconductor Fabrication Systems for Closed-Loop Evaluation", Dec. 1997, Proceedings of the 36th IEEE Conference on Decision and Control, Vol. 1, pages 830-831.					
	OT-3	Kobayashi, et al., "Particle Characteristics of 300-mm Minienvironment (FOUP and LPU)", 1999, Proceedings of 1999 IEEE International Symposium on Semiconductor Manufacturing Conference Proceedings, pages 39-42.					
Examiner			Date Considered				
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.							

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	US-12	5,818,716	10/06/98	Chin et al.			
	US-13	5,612,886	03/18/97	Weng			
	US-14	5,976,199	11/02/99	Wu et al.			
	US-15	5,256,204	10/26/93	Wu			
	US-16						
	US-17						
	US-18						
	US-19						
	US-20						
	US-21						
	US-22						

Foreign Patent Documents							Translation	
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No	
	F-6	WO 00/44653 A1	08/03/00	PCT		X		
	F-7	WO 00/59004 A1	10/05/00	PCT		X		
	F-8	WO 01/01828 A1	01/11/01	PCT		X		
	F-9	WO 01/10756 A1	02/15/01	PCT		X		
	F-10	WO 02/04774 A2	01/17/02	PCT		X		

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
OT-4	No-Author, "PRI Selected By Varian Semiconductor to Supply 300mm Integrated Front-End Buffering Solutions", Feb. 10, 2000, Newswire, Page 7434.
OT-5	
OT-6	

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U.S. Patent Documents							
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	US-23						
	US-24						
	US-25						
	US-26						
	US-27						
	US-28						
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	US-30						
	US-31						
	US-32						
	US-33						

Foreign Patent Documents							Translation	
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No	
	F-11	EP 0513651 A1	11/19/92	EPO		X		
	F-12	EP 0219826 B1	09/07/94	EPO		X		
	F-13	EP 0472536 B1	12/14/94	EPO		X		
	F-14	EP 0651429 A1	05/03/95	EPO		X		
	F-15	EP 0556193 B1	12/06/95	EPO		X		

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
	OT-7
	OT-8
	OT-9

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	US-34						
	US-35						
	US-36						
	US-37						
	US-38						
	US-39						
	US-40						
	US-41						
	US-42						
	US-43						
	US-44						

Foreign Patent Documents							Translation	
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Yes	No	
	F-16	EP 0663686 B1	06/18/97	EPO		X		
	F-17	EP 0684631 B1	04/01/98	EPO		X		
	F-18	EP 0555891 B1	01/20/99	EPO		X		
	F-19	EP 0663686 A1	07/19/95	EPO		X		
	F-20	EP 0365589 B1	09/23/92	EPO		X		

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
	OT-10
	OT-11
	OT-12

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